

March 14, 2001

Notice to the water users in the Meadowville Area

The next meeting of the water users in the Meadowville area and representatives from the Division of Water Rights will be held **Friday, March 30, 2001, at 11:00 a.m., at:**

Garden City Offices
145 W Center
Garden City UT

At the last meeting, held on March 12th, the distribution letters which were sent in 1989 from the State Engineers Office to the Meadowville water users were reviewed. A copy of these letters is enclosed for your reference. It was also explained that without a new adjudication of the area and a new court decree the distribution of water has to be according to the Proposed Determination of Water Rights (the "Red Book"). The only exception to this would be if a distribution agreement were developed that would be stipulated to by all the water users. It is not likely that either a new adjudication or a distribution agreement can be developed in the near future because the State Engineer does not have the manpower available to put on the project and it would be very expensive for the water users to hire a consulting engineering firm to do the work. It was concluded at the meeting that the best approach would be to hire a deputy commissioner for the Meadowville area, require the installation and maintenance of measuring devices by the water users, and establish irrigation regulation according to the distribution letters and the proposed determination. It is understood that it will take some time to implement this process and adjustments will have to be made as the new deputy learns the area and the water rights involved. One of the challenges is that the Meadowville water users have not updated the State Engineer's records concerning the ownership of water rights in the area. This would facilitate the distribution of water. LaRae Weston and Paul Lamborn accepted the assignment to seek out individuals who might be interested and able to serve as deputy commissioner.

The purpose of the next meeting will be to discuss and try to answer any questions concerning the water distribution rules set out in the distribution letters and the proposed determination, recommend someone to be appointed as deputy commissioner, set a budget and assessments to pay the deputy's salary and expenses, determine the locations where water measuring devices should be installed, and determine the water users who are responsible to install each measuring device.

If you have any questions or comments prior to the meeting, please contact me at (801)538-7380 or Bob Fotheringham, Regional Engineer, at (435)752-8755.

Sincerely,



Lee H. Sim, P.E.
Assistant State Engineer for Distribution

cc: Bob Fotheringham
Ron Hoffman
Sim Weston